

Serving Million; Western is Your University

Has Seven Colleges In Western Ontario

Liberal Arts, Medicine, Public Health
Taught in London and Affiliated
Institutions

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This Section

equally is an axiom there, it has
rightfully been said.

Soundly Planned

Western is modern again, in that
"it is not the outcome of any individual's impulse, nor an instinctive or random growth but the definitely considered, clearly projected realization on comprehensive lines of a large community's educational needs." It is planned like a modern city, broadly planned for Western Ontario. Like the great new civic universities of England, it is supported directly by city and government, not by any closed corporation.

In the planning of Western's activities the aim has been to secure a symmetrical development of liberal and practical, Veritas and Utilitas, Truth and Service, the motto is.

Cardinal Newman commented in his famous discourse on the value of knowledge, as an end in itself apart from its moral, political and economic uses. In a university, he said, "a habit of mind is formed which lasts through life, of which the attributes are, freedom, equitableness, calmness, moderation and wisdom, or what I have ventured to call a philosophical habit."

Enlarging the Mind

Again liberal education is defined as a "refinement or an enlargement of the mind." "It is well to be a gentleman, to have a cultivated intellect, a delicate taste, a candid, equitable dispassionate mind, a noble and courteous bearing in the conduct of life; these are the conatural qualities of a large knowledge," he said.

Western is more Spartan in its eager attention to the physical, moral and social growth of boy and girl, and to the development of the whole character.

Some universities have arisen out of schools for theology and some began with the study of medicine. The London Institution came into existence in 1878, primarily in the interests of Huron College students in theology.

Almost immediately upon the opening of Arts classes under the direction of the Anglican diocese of Huron, a medical faculty was formed by 12 of the leading physicians of London. The medical needs of the large territory between Lake Huron and Lake Erie were as potent a factor as theology in the establishment of the university, it is pointed out.

Meant for Capital

London, and not Toronto, would have been the site of the provincial capitol and university, if the original plans of Governor Simcoe had been followed. It is learned from reference to a history thesis prepared by a Western graduate, Ruth Helen Davis. He regarded Western Ontario highly; and it is a coincidence that he proposed to establish the provincial seat of learning on the actual site that Western occupies today.

It was in 1863 that Huron College, basic element of Western, was born, and in 1878 the present university was incorporated. The medical faculty was set up in 1881.

The university had difficulties in the early years for it is recorded for the year 1890, that: "Every spring when the arts department closed, it was doubtful if it would reopen in the fall."

In 1893, as a climax to a succession of difficulties, mainly financial, the Arts classes were suspended, and were not resumed for 10 years. The Medical classes continued, however. The total income for the year 1904 was \$3,502 and the expenditures were \$4,444. Even by 1908 there were only 200 books in the library, for which the annual appropriation was a mere \$150.

City Helped

The City of London came to the rescue in 1908 by voting the university an annual grant of \$5,000. That year and the year 1924, when it moved from its old home in detached and semi-detached houses in London to its present Gothic buildings, are memorable periods in Western history.

The London grant was doubled in 1913 and in 1915 it was increased to \$15,000. It leaped to \$55,000 in 1921 where it remains today. The city has given help in addition to the grants. When the Provincial Government refused Western's plea for aid in 1920, the city gave \$100,000 and two years later an additional \$250,000. The County of Middlesex also presented \$100,000 to build the tower as a war memorial.

The City of London, despite its great generosity, has not demanded, like Toronto, that the university

a great deal of floundering."

Dr. Fox, however, has an ability rare in an Anglo-Saxon raised in North America. He speaks six languages.

In spite of the fact that there is a veritable alphabet of degrees that follows his name, Dr. Fox's outstanding characteristic is his warm humanity. He is dignified yet knows how to be almost a personal friend to every member of the student body. A man of great intellect himself, his knowledge has gone greatly to the development of the intellects of others.

Born in N.Y. State

He was born in June, 1878, at Thompsonville, N. Y. His parents were originally Torontonians and at the time of his birth, his father was serving one of numerous charges as a Baptist minister in the United States.

Western's prexy received all of his education in Toronto at Wellesley School, Harbord Collegiate, and McMaster University.

He received his bachelor's degree in 1899 and his master's in 1906. The first year after graduation he spent in Europe, chiefly in Geneva, where he first developed an uncanny aptitude for French which today makes him one of Ontario's strongest cultural links with Quebec.

In his early days, Dr. Fox went west to take his first academic post in Brandon, and in 1906 he married Miss Julia McKinnon, of Brandon. In 1909 he obtained an appointment as University Fellow in Classical Archaeology at Johns Hopkins University. His thesis for his doctorate was one of the most brilliant pieces of scholarship ever done by a Canadian. He was appointed associate professor of Greek at Princeton in 1911.

When Western's organization and scholarship needed attention in 1917, Dr. Fox accepted the position of head of the classical department, and in 1919 when further changes were made, Dr. Fox was made Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Chosen for President

His eight years as dean had so well demonstrated his sterling qualities of scholarship, administrative ability and forceful activity, plus personal kindness that the powers at Western decided to create him president.

In his relationship to the public which Western serves through its students and in other ways, Dr. Fox always tries to make the university justify itself and its policies and he does his utmost to live up to and make Western live up to her motto—Truth and Service.

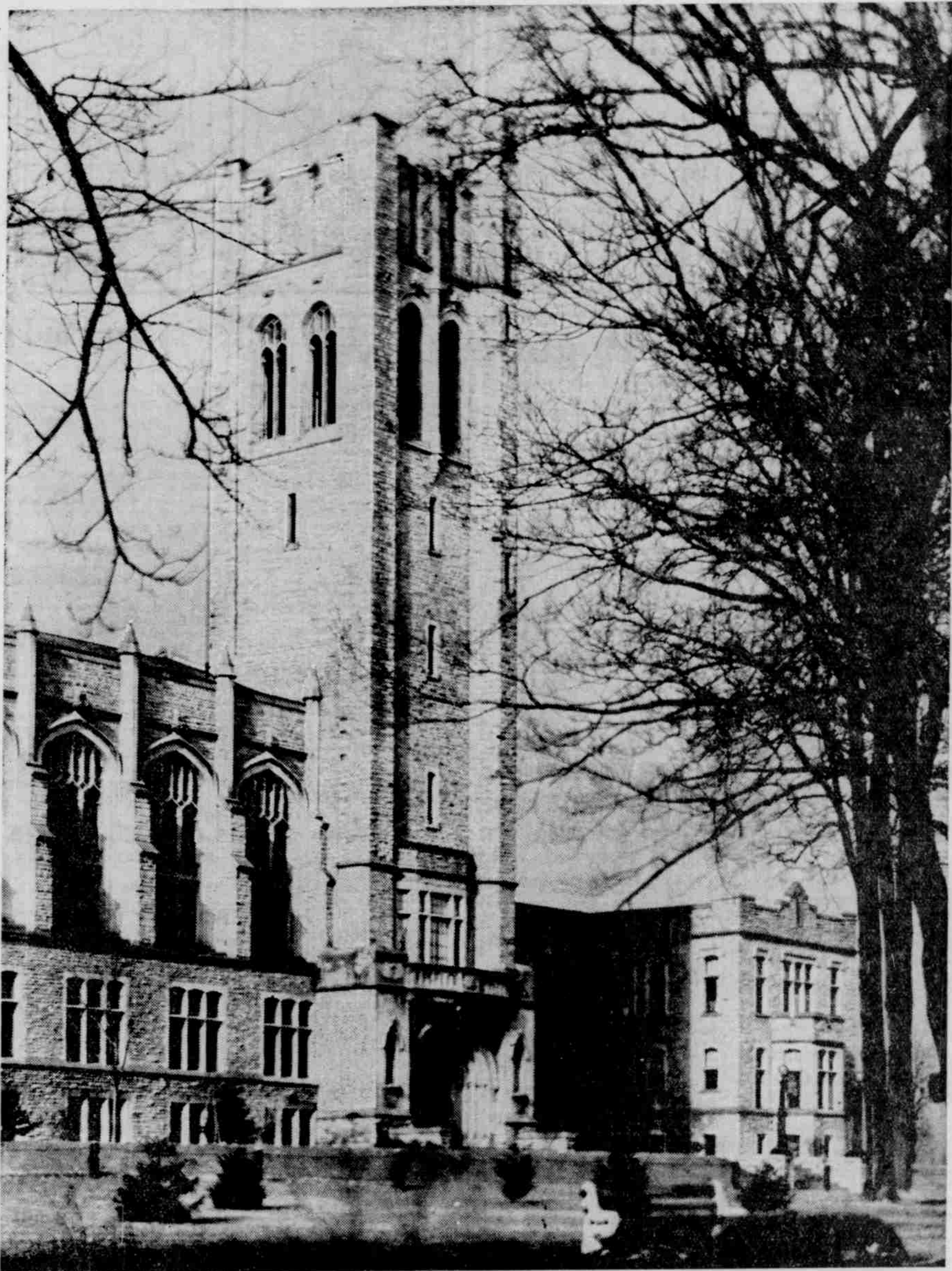
University College, home of the Arts classes, has a commanding position on the campus. Over its sculptured portal rises a rugged square tower to a height of 125 feet. In this building, in addition to classrooms and the executive offices, is a thoroughly modern library with many tiers of steel racks loaded with books. The convocation hall has a well-equipped stage, the drama being regarded as indispensable.

The munificence of the late J. Davis Barnett, of Stratford, lifted the Western library out of the obscurity of 500 volumes to a status equal to that of the leading universities on this continent.

Professor Landon, an authority on history as well as librarian of the college, is proud of his ever-growing collection of books, both rare and modern. His will be the tremendous task of transferring these precious volumes to the new library from the two floors in University college which the library has occupied for several years.

Future Accommodation

"The new building will make quite adequate provision for the library needs of the university, we presume, for quite a little period ahead," he said. There will be accommodation in the building for upwards of 350 readers and the library will have facilities for from 175,000 to 200,000 volumes together with the offices. The feature of the building will be the main reading room with accommodation for 200 readers, and in addition to that



LIKE an entrance to some famous continental Cathedral is the entrance to University College, administration centre and Arts college of the University of Western Ontario at

London. This massive tower was presented to the university as a year memorial by Middlesex County.

—Photo by Arthur A. Gleason, London.

there will be an auxiliary room for assigned reading, seating 100.

"A little more than 15 years ago the library of the university was practically non-existent," Professor Landon said. "Its foundation came in 1918 with the gift of Mr. Barnett of 40,000 bound volumes and about five tons of pamphlets and clippings on an amazing range of subjects. We haven't opened all the bundles."

With generous assistance from the board of governors and by the addition of numerous other libraries willed in entirety to the university, the Western collection has been increased to approximately 100,000 volumes.

By including the collection of 20,000 volumes in the medical school and the books in the working library of the Institute of Public Health, the total library resources of the university is estimated at about 125,000 volumes.

Shakespeariana

Speaking of the Barnett collection, Mr. Landon said: "Barnett

was an amazing and unique man. He spent his whole life in gathering this material. He was not a mere book collector. He worked along definite lines and an extraordinary number of lines. I don't think there is anything in the country that can quite match his collection. Its feature, perhaps, is the collection of books by and about Shakespeare of which there are about 2,000."

The co-eds train under Miss Joyce M. Plimpre and they have the same privilege of election. They have quite a variety to choose from, including archery and outdoor soccer for the summer and fall and folk dancing, badminton and other diversions for the winter months.

"In these games, the student is trained to think," Mr. Crocker said. "We believe it is much better from an educational point of view than to make the student stand up in class and merely do what he is told to do. In addition to those taking part, some of the students take on the management of these various sports and it gives them business training."

That idea is carried further through the class games in the different colleges, as well as inter-collegiate competitions for various championship trophies, and topping the list are the intercollegiate contests which net most of the publicity and circulate the erroneous idea in the minds of the unthinking that universities are glorified gyms.

Steadily Growing

The library is constantly being added to, through additional bequests and by means of an exchange with other universities. Duplicates are exchanged for books which are not on its shelves. Mr. Landon estimates that 6,000 to 7,000 books are added annually from all sources. The affiliated colleges in London have their own libraries: Brescia Hall, the Ursuline women's college; St. Peter's Seminary, the Roman Catholic theological college; and Huron College, the Anglican theological college.

The spacious college site has given full scope for college athletics. An important determination of Western University is to train the sound body for the sound mind. Western believes in the playing fields, and is bent on spurring the schools of Western Ontario to physical as well as mental excellence. Individual physical training is compulsory for all students in at least the first two years of the course. Health and wisdom are Western's objects.

Athletic Director Crocker points out that the enrolment at the college is required to take physical education for the first two years at least two periods a week. The third and fourth year are optional.

Elect Games

In the old days, Mr. Crocker says, the idea seemed to be that the

instructor would do all the thinking during P. T. Now the theory is to permit students to take their exercise in recreative games. They elect the games that they prefer, whether it be soccer, football, basketball, badminton, golf, tennis, or the track and field games.

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Specialized Sport

"Intercollegiate sport is important," Mr. Crocker says, "because it gives the best athletes a chance to try their ability against the best athletes of other universities. In other words we begin specializing when we get into that class of sport."

Western has won high place in the realm of sport and has long since ceased to be an object of jest to sport-minded graduates of other large universities. In 1931 the Mustangs brought to London for the first time the Yates Trophy, emblematic of the Canadian Intercollegiate Rugby championship. Fourteen of the lads who had been trained to perfection by Coach Breen graduated the following year and the trophy went to the University of Toronto, where it had not rested since 1926.

Last year Western was in third place in senior intercollegiate basketball, and the junior team is now up in the semi-finals for the Ontario championship. The women's basketball team won second place on the inter-college tournament in 1933. The tennis team came through with

the provincial championship for the past season.

Mr. Crocker looks forward expectantly to construction of the new athletic building on the campus. At the present time the university is using seven or eight gyms around London, in the Y, the Tech, Central Collegiate and elsewhere, and the athletic department is handicapped accordingly.

The athletic department conducts classes in first aid and life-saving and it is Mr. Crocker's hope that some day every student will be taught to swim.

Medical College

The medical college is rated in the first class by the Rockefeller Foundation, which is considered an authority on university appraisal. Dr. A. Bruce Macallum, dean of the faculty, has been the force that has given it this ranking.

Students in the medical school must undergo a stiff seven-year course to get their sheepskin. The faculty is devoting an increasing amount of attention to evaluating the quality of work done by the students individually and to estimating the abilities of the students to continue in the study of medicine. Thus high standards are maintained in this department.

"In our medical college," Dr. Fox said, "the registration of the freshmen classes has for a great number of years been limited to 50 students. And the competition for places is exceedingly keen. In fact we get 1,200 applications from the United States alone in a year for these 50 places. But it is very seldom that we can let anybody in because we reserve the first places for our Ontario boys."

He emphasized that the course is now seven years in duration from junior matriculation or six from the completion of upper school. It is on a par with Toronto or Queen's in this regard.

Seeking Ideal

"We try to hit a practical ideal in clinical work," he said. "That is we limit the classes to 35 each in the two upper years, making a total of 70 engaged in clinical work at one time. We feel that we have not got even in this city of 75,000 more clinic material than is sufficient for that number."

Western, Dr. Fox said, has the lowest record of failures among

students of Canadian universities who try the United States medical board examinations.

The university was the first on the continent to establish a department of public health and this phase of its activity has been a boon to thousands. It was set up in 1911 and Dr. A. J. Slack who was on the staff when it was opened, is now in command. Besides supervising the instruction of students and nurses and the post-graduate work of doctors who seek the diploma of public health, he is head of the great public health centre for Western Ontario.

Its laboratories are largely responsible for the manner in which typhoid and other diseases are kept in check. From a total of 1,472 tests the year it was opened, the department took around 50,000 tests in recent years. Part of the work of the department is to store and distribute biological products of the provincial board of health. In large refrigerators are kept such commodities as rabies and tetanus antitoxin and other serums and insulin.

First of Kind

"The faculty of public health is the first of its kind in the world," Dr. Fox said. "Of course, since its inception in 1912, similar institutions have been founded by big philanthropists and because they have had the means at their disposal they have been able to exceed ours in size."

The business administration course under Professor P. H. Hensell has won wide acclaim among Canadian industrial and commercial leaders. It is unique in business training circles, in that students are enabled to study "case" problems to which he can apply the theoretical knowledge which he has acquired.

"The problems are actual problems taken from industry, so that we feel that a student is learning about business as it exists today, rather than just the theory," Professor Hensell said.

An agriculture and arts course has been arranged between the university and the Ontario Agricultural College.

First Graduates

The first two graduates of Western achieved high positions in Canadian public life. The first grad of the Medical school, incidentally the only student of the first year, was Hon. Dr. W. J. Roche, former chancellor, and today head of the Civil Service Commission at Ottawa. He graduated in 1883 in the class of one. The first graduate in Arts was the Hon. Mr. Justice R. F. Sutherland, who was Speaker of the House of Commons. He was formerly a county judge in Essex. He too, graduated in 1883.

Dr. Roche told of the early days at Western in an article published in the Gazette, student paper:

"In the fall of 1879, having matriculated, I entered Trinity Medical college and attended the institution for three sessions, my room mate being the present Dr. John D. Wilson (now deceased) of your city. Upon the opening of the Medical Department of the Western University, taking the advice of Dr. C. S. Moore, in whose office I had spent three summers as a student, and who was on the staff at its inception, I put in my final session at the college."

"In looking back to that portion of my college life, I cannot say that I ever regretted making the change from Trinity to Western University. 'Tis true, we did not have as good hospital facilities, our teachers were not as experienced in the art of instructing as the older institutions, but the teaching was more practical and owing to the fewer number of students, we were afforded the privilege of making bedside examinations and having bedside clinics which were not feasible in the chosen few in Toronto."

First Faculty

"I had the honor of being the only final year student at that time. Dr. Moore, Sr., dean of the faculty, was professor of surgery; Dr. Fraser, since deceased, professor of medicine; Dr. Fenwick, professor of medical jurisprudence; Dr. Arnold, professor of clinical medicine, and these gentlemen would appear every day to deliver their lectures to the one lone student of the year."

"Great changes, of course, have taken place on your staff. With the present personnel, I am but little acquainted, save by their reputations, but the graduates who are scattered over Canada, many of whom it has been my good fortune to meet, reflect credit on their Alma Mater and are making successes in life."

"In the small cottage, in the north part of the city, within the grounds of the old Dufferin Boys' College, which was utilized as the medical school for that day, about 70 students, if I remember correctly, composed the attendance the first year of the college's existence."

"The time-honored janitor, long lean and cranky, who resided on the premises, was an important feature of the institution, and his eccentricities made him the butt of many a practical joke at the hands of the students. Being the first graduate of the Medical Department, as well as the former pupil of the old war-horse Mr. Nicholas Wilson, quite naturally, I still maintain

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MR. SYMMONS



MISS GIDLEY



MR. JAMES

STUDENTS at Western handle their own affairs, even to disciplining those who contravene their code of rules. Jack Symmons is prefect, head of the student adminis-

trative body, and Miss Lois Gidley is sub-prefect. George James is editor of The Gazette, the university newspaper, which yields considerable influence in campus activities. —Photos by Walter Dixon, London,